

AGENDA

Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin: Borrego Springs Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

Advisory Committee (AC)

October 4, 2018 @ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: UCI Steele Burnand Research Center: 401 Tilting T, Borrego Springs CA 92004

Remote Access: <https://csus.zoom.us/j/849707204> **Call-In:** 646-876-9923 **Meeting ID:** 849707204#

- I. **OPENING PROCEDURES** [10:00 am – 10:30 am]
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Roll Call of Attendees
 - D. Review of Meeting Agenda
 - E. Approval of August 30, 2018 AC Meeting Minutes
 - F. Updates from the Core Team
 - a. Transitions in Core Team Membership and AC Representation
 - b. Brief Report-out on August 31st Technical Meeting with Consultants
 - c. Metrics on Responses Received to Draft-Baseline Pumping Allocation Letters sent to Pumpers
 - d. Consideration for Formation of Ad Hoc Committee for Emerging Constituents of Concern
 - e. Consideration of SB 1000 as it Relates to SGMA Process
 - G. Updates from Advisory Committee Members
 - H. As Needed Opportunity to Clarify Technical/Informational Material presented on 08/30/2018
- II. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS** [10:30 am – 10:55 am]
 - A. Socioeconomic Efforts: Community Engagement Efforts Update – *LeSar Development Consultants*
 - B. Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process Overview – *Core Team*
- III. **GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: REVIEW OF DRAFT CHAPTERS** [10:55 am – 2:40 pm with lunch approximately 12:00 – 12:30 pm]
 - A. Chapter 1: Introduction to GSP
 - B. Chapter 2: Plan Area and Basin Setting
 - C. Chapter 3: Sustainability Management Criteria
- IV. **CLOSING PROCEDURES** [2:40 pm – 3:00 pm]
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. General Public Comments (comments may be limited to 3 minutes)
 - C. Review Action Items from Previous AC Meetings, Next AC Meeting Date(s), and Next Steps

The next regular meetings of the Advisory Committee are scheduled for **October 25, 2018** and **November 29, 2018**, at the UCI Steele/ Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center (*subject to change).

Please be advised that times associated with agenda are approximations only. Public comment periods will be accommodated at the end of each item listed for discussion and possible action. The duration of each comment period will be at the discretion of the meeting Facilitator. Any public record provided to the A/C less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, regarding any item on the open session portion of this agenda, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Office of the Borrego Water District, located at 806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs CA 92004.

The Borrego Springs Water District complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Persons with special needs should call Geoff Poole at 760-767-5806 at least 48 hours in advance of the start of this meeting, in order to enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Borrego SGMA Website: <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/SGMA/borrego-valley.html>

MINUTES

Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin: Borrego Springs Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Advisory Committee (AC)

August 30, 2018 @ 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: UCI Steele Burnand Research Center: 401 Tilting T, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Borrego Water District (BWD) General Manager Geoff Poole.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call of Attendees

Committee members: Present: Jim Seley, Rebecca Falk, Dave Duncan, Bill Berkley, Gina Moran, Diane Johnson, Jack McGrory, Ryan Hall

Absent: Jim Wilson

Core Team members: Leanne Crow, County of San Diego Jim Bennett, County of San Diego
Geoff Poole, BWD

Staff/Consultants: Meagan Wylie, Center for Collaborative Policy (via teleconference)
Trey Driscoll, Dudek, GSP Consultant
Wendy Quinn, Recording Secretary Rachel Ralston, LeSar Development (via teleconference, Item III.A.b only)
Hugh McManus, Dudek Consulting Team Jay Jones, Environmental Navigation Systems, Inc. (ENSI)

Public: Michael Sadler, *Borrego Sun* Linda Haneline
Stephen Ballas Bill Haneline
Martha Deichler Kathy Dice
Betsy Knaak Suzanne Lawrence

D. Review of Meeting Agenda

Meagan Wylie reviewed the meeting ground rules and Agenda.

E. Approval of July 26, 2018 AC Meeting Minutes

Upon motion by Member Seley, seconded by Member Berkley and unanimously carried by those present, the Minutes of the July 26, 2018 AC Meeting were approved as written.

F. Updates from the Core Team

Jim Bennett reported that the main activities since the last AC meeting focused on completing the draft Chapters of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Dudek has completed Chapters 1 and 2 and expects to complete the remaining chapters within several weeks. A detailed overview of the draft GSP components will be presented over the course of the next three AC meetings.

Mr. Bennett also recalled that letters were sent to pumpers regarding their respective proposed Baseline Pumping Allocations (BPAs) in mid-July, and several responses have been received. The responses are currently being reviewed and analyzed. Some farmers also submitted pumping data based on metered use. Member Falk asked how many pumpers had not responded to the provided letter, and Mr. Bennett agreed to obtain the number. Member Seley asked whether, if a pumper does not respond to the proposed BPA, he/she is assumed to agree with it. Geoff Poole felt a confirmation of receipt of letter would be beneficial, and agreed to discuss with the Core Team. Mr. Bennett clarified that the letters went out certified mail which includes return receipts. Member Hall asked whether the BPAs took

into account water use other than irrigation, such as people living on the property and maintenance. Mr. Poole replied that the core team should look into this.

Mr. Poole reported that in response to Member Seley's request made at the July AC meeting to have the Agricultural Alliance for Water and Resource Education's (AAWARE's) technical expert review Dudek's BPA report, a meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow, August 31. This will be the first of a series of meetings.

G. Updates from Advisory Committee Members

Member Duncan reported that there had been no ratepayers' meetings since the last AC meeting. However, a question was raised as to how close the projected water table levels at the end of the GSP implementation period would be to the screening levels in the production wells, as there are concerns being expressed regarding future water quality values as water table levels decline. Trey Driscoll replied that this topic would be addressed in Chapter 3 of the GSP.

Member Johnson reported that the Stewardship Council had been considering the water quality component of the GSP. Pesticides that are currently regulated will be monitored, but concerns are emerging about substances that are used in the Valley for agriculture activities, but not yet regulated. She suggested creating a working group to look at these potential contaminants/constituents of concern and report back findings to the AC and Core Team. The Core Team agreed to consider and discuss it at the next AC meeting.

Member Falk asked about the Borrego Springs line item in the Proposition 3 bond measure, coming up on the November ballot. Specifically, if the bond measure passes, and the money is used to purchase farmland or water, will it belong to BWD? If someone subsequently purchases land or water credits from BWD, will BWD get the money? Mr. Poole indicated discussion on this topic is premature, but will be necessary if the bond measure passes.

H. As Needed Opportunity to Clarify Technical/Informational Material presented at July 26, 2018 Meeting
None

II. TECHNICAL AND POLICY ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION OR INTRODUCTION

A. Baseline Pumping Allocations & Reductions

Mr. Bennett explained that the Core Team was reviewing BPAs and proposed reductions per Member Falk's concern regarding the effect of the Human Right to Water Law on the BPAs. The Core Team's current approach is instituting proportional reductions across sectors, with consideration of the Human Right to Water allocated in order to allow that portion of the municipal sector to be exempt from any reductions. Mr. Poole added that although the proposed BPAs contemplate a 75 percent reduction in water use over the 20-year timeframe, consideration of the Human Right to Water may lessen municipal reductions to roughly 50 percent. More information on this estimate is expected to be presented at the next AC meeting. Member Falk felt this was a critical issue. She reiterated the Sponsor Group's position that they strongly prefer municipal users be exempt from any and all future water use reductions. Members Duncan, Moran and Johnson concurred.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Socioeconomic Efforts: Proposition 1 Grant Tasks Update
a. Tasks 2 and 3 Draft Report

Jay Jones presented an overview of the socioeconomic efforts funded by the Proposition 1 grant, focusing on the area's Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) status. Dr. Jones' company, Environmental Navigation Services, Inc. (ENSI) has been working on this along with LeSar Development Consultants and Dudek. He reviewed that Task 1 is the SDAC engagement, Task 2 is the baseline data compilation (SDAC data, groundwater quantity and level, groundwater quality and overall BWD

infrastructure and costs), and Task 3 is management analysis (how the aquifer will respond to pumping reductions, how BWD operations will be affected, and SDAC impacts).

Dr. Jones presented charts showing inflows (groundwater recharge and return flows) and outflows (pumping and evapotranspiration). He explained the overdraft analysis methodology, assuming the current pumping rate of 5,700 acre-feet per year and calculating the overdraft over time using the methodology. The model provides a statistically based analysis that can be used to assess differing pumping rates.

Member Falk asked whether any projections were based on climate change, and Dr. Jones replied that they were not. However, Mr. Driscoll reported that he was addressing climate change within the GSP water budget calculations, and would be presenting more information in the future. Member Seley pointed out that the 2015 United States Geological Survey (USGS) report showed a return flow of 20 percent, whereas Dr. Jones' data showed 10 percent. Dr. Jones explained that the range was 10 to 30 percent, and it is continually reducing. His models utilize the USGS data. Mr. Bennett pointed out that irrigation practices are getting more efficient, so the long-range estimate average 20 percent but currently with efficient irrigation is estimated at 10%. Member Berkley asked if there were any plans for bioretention basins or injection wells. Dr. Jones replied that bioretention basins could potentially be feasible on State Park land, but was unsure if the State Park would consider it. Dr. Jones indicated injection wells have been a viable option in other basins and wasn't sure of its applicability in this basin.

Member Johnson brought up the notion that Borrego Springs differs from other SDACs due to various factors such as small population and remote location. Dr. Jones explained that he was trying to break down community data in terms of jobs, and whether water use reduction would create a problem. Public member Martha Deichler pointed out that if enrollment declines, the schools would lose money. Mr. Poole asked how many students would have to leave Borrego Springs before a school closed, and Ms. Deichler agreed to find out. Member Seley noted that if farmers leave, so do their workers and their children.

b. Community Engagement Efforts Update

Rachel Ralston reported she had gained important information from the business survey. One of the biggest issues is the potential income shift and how that affects the SDAC. She invited the AC's attention to the revised residential survey report, included in the Agenda package. On September 19, there will be two community meetings at the Borrego Springs High School Community Room, 5:00 – 6:30 in English and 6:30 – 8:00 in Spanish.

Ms. Ralston reported that 247 responses were received from the English residential survey, and 54 responses from the Spanish residential survey. Fifty percent of both English and Spanish responders indicated they would be willing to pay up to \$25 more per month for water. There was a discrepancy in income between the two demographics, English speaking earning \$36,000 to \$150,000 annually while the Spanish speaking were \$36,000 or less. Ninety-five percent of English speakers owned their homes, while eighty-three percent of the Spanish speakers rented. The Spanish speaking community is concerned about having to leave Borrego Springs if jobs in agriculture and golf course maintenance become unavailable.

Ms. Ralston announced that the new Borrego GSP Facebook page would be launched soon, and an e-mail contact list was being developed.

c. New Well Site Feasibility Study

Mr. Poole introduced the presentation on the new well site feasibility study, another project funded by the Proposition 1 grant. He explained that BWD needs to replace five of its wells over the next five years, and Dudek has been investigating which wells should be replaced first, and where the new wells should be placed. Hugh McManus of Dudek pointed out there were two approaches to locating an optimum well site: identifying existing wells and reviewing the distribution system. He then prepared a well location ranking matrix and estimated the remaining useful life of the wells being considered for

replacement. The saturated thickness of the aquifer and water quality were reviewed, as well as potential interference from nearby wells. Four sites were recommended, the best choice being Well 4 and second best near the airport. Mr. Poole pointed out that Well 4 needs to be replaced anyway. Member McGrory recommended considering the Pivot Well site for second choice.

Member Berkley asked whether the well sites in the study were interconnected. Mr. McManus thought well options 1, 2 and 3 were, but that the last well, in the South Management Area, was separate. Mr. Poole agreed to confirm. Public member Betsy Knaak asked whether the second choice well site would affect native plants in the area, such as the mesquites in the sink. Mr. McManus replied that effects on Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems would be studied when BWD is ready to locate a well on the site. Member Berkley asked why only the middle and lower aquifers were analyzed in the study, and not the upper aquifer. Mr. McManus replied that the saturation thickness of the upper aquifer was limited, but Dr. Jones felt it was not much different from the middle. Member Falk asked Mr. McManus to include a map of the saturation thickness of the upper aquifer in his finalized presentation.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process Overview

This item was continued to the next AC meeting.

IV. CLOSING PROCEDURES

A. Correspondence

The correspondence was included in the Agenda package.

B. General Public Comments

Suzanne Lawrence asked the Core Team to evaluate new legislation and report back. SB 1000 was passed in 2016, signed in 2017 and became effective in 2018. It requires every city and county in the State to review and address environmental components in its master plan.

Member Falk requested copies of slides to be used in the CEQA process overview in advance of the next meeting.

A letter in the Agenda package from the *Borrego Sun* brought up property values in Borrego Springs and the fact that they could be impacted by SGMA.

C. Review Action Items from Previous AC Meetings, Next AC Meeting Date(s), and Next Steps

Ms. Wylie summarized today's action items. The next AC meeting was scheduled for October 4, 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

September 27, 2018

TO: Borrego Advisory Committee

FROM: Core Team

SUBJECT: Item I.F.a: Transitions in Core Team Membership and AC Representation

Due to the upcoming retirement of Beth Hart from the BWD Board of Directors, BWD's representation on the Core Team and, resultantly the BWD Ratepayer Representative on the GSP Advisory Committee, has been amended.

Core Team Representation: At the September 18, 2018 BWD Board of Directors meeting, Dave Duncan was appointed to the Core Team to replace Ms. Hart. This change will be made official at the October 4th AC Meeting. Mr. Duncan is highly familiar with the SGMA process from his service as the BWD Ratepayer Representation on the AC; his experience in this capacity will be greatly beneficial as the process moves forward. Mr. Duncan will officially join the BWD as a Director in November 2018.

BWD Ratepayer AC Representative: As Dave Duncan now participates on the Core Team, his vacated position on the AC needs to be filled. BWD conducted an application and interview process for this vacancy in September. The Board approved the nomination of Gary Haldeman at its September 26th meeting. Mr. Haldeman has assisted BWD on the current GSP SDAC outreach effort as translator and interpreter for the recent Spanish speaking events. He is also a long-time resident of Borrego Springs. The County of San Diego will be issuing an endorsement letter in support of Mr. Haldeman assuming the position of Ratepayer Representative on the AC.

The Core Team would like to issue its deepest thanks to Ms. Hart for her invaluable contributions to the GSP development process for the Borrego Valley Subbasin.

September 27, 2018

TO: Borrego Advisory Committee

FROM: Core Team

SUBJECT: Item I.F.d: Consideration for Formation of Ad Hoc Committee for Emerging Constituents of Concern

There is a robust process in California for regulating potable water quality promulgated in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Emerging chemicals of concern (ECCs) are currently unregulated and include pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and industrial chemicals. The detection of many of these chemicals is so recent that robust methods for their quantification and toxicological data for interpreting potential human or ecosystem health effects are unavailable.

An example of a recent ECC is 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP). In July 2017, the State Water Resources Control Board voted unanimously to implement a maximum contaminant level of 5 parts per trillion (ppt) in drinking water for TCP. TCP is a man-made, chlorinated hydrocarbon typically found at industrial or hazardous waste sites and has been used as an industrial solvent and as a cleaning and degreasing agent; it has also been found as an impurity resulting from the production of soil fumigants, distributed starting in the 1950s by Shell and Dow. TCP was removed from pesticides in the 1980's, however, due to its prevalent use in the prior 30 years; it has become a water quality concern for drinking water systems relying on groundwater in areas where it was applied. Drinking water suppliers across the state were required to begin testing for TCP in their wells starting in January 2018.

The Borrego Water District (BWD) tested nine wells (ID1-8, ID1-10, ID1-12, ID1-16, ID4-4, ID4-11, ID4-18, ID5-5 and Wilcox well) for TCP in January/February 2018. Results indicate that TCP was not detected in any of the nine wells above the reporting limit of 0.005 micrograms per liter (5 parts per trillion) (SWRCB 2018)..¹

As Borrego Springs has limited industrial activity, potential ECCs in the Subbasin are likely limited to pharmaceuticals and pesticides. The source of pharmaceuticals is septic recharge and effluent discharge at the Rams Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility. Pesticides sources include application for agriculture, golf courses and residential use. All these sources of return flow to the Borrego Springs Subbasin (Subbasin) generally increase mineral concentrations such as total dissolved solids and nitrate. Nitrate is a widespread contaminant found in groundwater and is a reasonable surrogate to identify areas of the Subbasin that may be impacted by ECCs. No additional water quality sampling for ECCs is recommended in the Subbasin at this time. Both the BWD and Borrego Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) will track the development of new regulatory requirements for ECCs. In the future, areas of the Subbasin

¹ (SWRCB 2018) https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/123TCP.html

identified to be impacted by nitrate may undergo additional testing for other constituents of concern including regulated pesticides listed in Title 22 and potentially ECCs. The Core Team is amenable to responding to additional questions specific to ECCs but has determined that it is unnecessary to form an Ad Hoc Committee for ECCs at this time.

September 27, 2018

TO: Borrego Advisory Committee

FROM: LeSar Development Consultants

SUBJECT: Item II.A: Socioeconomic Efforts: Community Engagement Efforts Update

Borrego Springs Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Community Meeting Summary

September 19, 2018

English: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Spanish: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Borrego Springs Unified School District, Community Room
2281 Diegueno Rd, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

- **Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee Present:** Diane Johnson
- **GSP Core Team:** Geoff Poole
- **GSP Consultant, Dudek:** Trey Driscoll
- **Borrego Water District (BWD) Board:** Joe Tutusko
- **LeSar Development Consultants:** Rachel Ralston
- **Members of the Public:** 34 attendees
- Interpretation/translation services provided by the Borrego Water District

Meeting Agenda and Format

- Welcome and Introductions – 10 minutes
- Overview: The Need to Regulate Groundwater – 5 minutes
- What is the Groundwater Sustainability Plan? – 10 minutes
- How Might the Plan Affect Borrego Residents and Businesses? – 5 minutes
- Listening Session and Q&A – 45 minutes
- Wrap-up and Report Back – 15 minutes

The following meeting format was used for both English and Spanish sessions:

The meeting began with introductions of the Borrego Water District board members and staff, as well as members of the Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee's Ad Hoc Committee on SDAC Engagement and the outreach consultant firm, LeSar Development Consultants.

The facilitator encouraged meeting attendees to ask clarifying questions during the brief presentation on water-related issues in the Borrego Valley and the need to regulate groundwater. Attendees were then encouraged to ask additional questions, voice any concerns about water issues and/or the GSP, and suggest ideas for the plan to consider and for additional stakeholders to include in the outreach process.

Rachel Ralston of LeSar Development Consultants facilitated the English session. Esmeralda Garcia of the Borrego Water District facilitated the Spanish session.

Community Input/Listening Session

Summary of Issues and Concerns			
Topic	Comments, Questions	ENG	SP
Rising water rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will residents have to reduce water usage? Will we receive more water? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The measures addressing resident water use have not yet been developed. Why have our water bills increased? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main reason is to cover the cost of repairing aging infrastructure. This will continue for a five-year period. 		X
Economic impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns were raised about local families, jobs, and school district viability if families move away because economic sectors change. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GSP is looking into both conservation measures and job retraining programs. 	X	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We feel that that nobody is looking out for us; not looking out for our jobs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, there will be changes to the types of jobs available. There are efforts underway to plan for alternative job opportunities. 		X
Water use allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why aren't the farmers fined? If they use more than they should, why are they not fined? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GSP will empower BWD with more enforcement powers. 		X
Sustainability strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to explore variety of permaculture strategies for water-use reductions. 	X	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% of farmers should leave the valley to balance water use. There was a 20% water-use reduction in Valley Center that seems to be working. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Center has outside water available, whereas Borrego Springs does not. Importing water to Borrego is prohibitively expensive. Recommendation was made for the GSP to include conservation education components, particularly for youth, who can then share the information with their families. 		X

Summary of Issues and Concerns			
Topic	Comments, Questions	ENG	SP
GSP development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If water use is brought into balance (i.e., GSP sustainability goal reached), will water fees be reduced or eliminated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is likely fees will continue as part of overall management and operations budget. • How will Proposition 3 (the Water Infrastructure and Watershed Conservation Bond Initiative, 2018) impact GSP implementation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If Proposition 3 passes the funds would likely be used to buy out farms, for land acquisition, and for environmental mitigation, transportation costs, and conservation programs. ○ If the bond does not pass, other funding mechanisms will have to be identified, e.g., fees, grants, etc. • Will the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) structure (i.e., how the County of San Diego and the BWD will be sharing responsibilities to run the agency) be included in the GSP? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The structure of the agency is still under development and likely will not be in the GSP. However, all documents related to the GSA will be publicly available. • Once approved, how long until GSP implementation begins? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some parts of it will be implementable early, but some may take years to get underway – particularly if there is litigation involved. 	X	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will be the effects and costs of these reductions? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water must be potable so there will be water-treatment costs. ○ The GSP will require the agricultural sector to pay for and install meters. 		X
Community meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation to bring GSP educational materials to local events, such as Borrego Days. 	X	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most meeting attendees learned about the meeting from the school district liaison and the promotoras program. • Too many people talk about the issue outside of the meetings, but they refuse to get involved. • We come to these meetings and then nothing changes. • Hold future community meetings with both English and Spanish attendees (simultaneous translation). There is more energy in the room that way, more information is shared. • Advisory Committee Meetings take place in the mornings, and we all work. It's not possible for us to come to these meetings. Suggest an evening timeframe and for all materials to be translated into Spanish. 		X
Communication Preferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preference to receive emails for GSP updates. • Little interest in community meetings in person. 	X	

Summary of Issues and Concerns			
Topic	Comments, Questions	ENG	SP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting attendees learned about the meeting through door-to-door flyering and BWD mailers. One person heard about the meeting from the Borrego 92004 Facebook page. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More information in writing, via email, and all materials translated into Spanish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BWD is developing the Borrego GSP Facebook page as well. Additionally, open your water bill for additional information. If you do not receive a water bill, stop by BWD for more information. 		X

Additional Comments Received (Comment Cards, Emails, Etc.)	
Issue/Concern	Additional Details
GSP development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can you tell me what the impact would be for the people of Borrego Springs if the Proposition 3 water bond passes in November 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This question is addressed in the English meeting summary above.

Next Steps

- Summary of outreach presented at the October 4, 2018 Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee Meeting
- Advisory Committee to consider changes to meeting times to accommodate request for evening meetings, as well as the request for all materials to be translated into Spanish.
- Socioeconomic data gathering and analysis to be completed in October-November 2018.
- Next community meetings to take place in mid-November 2018, prior to draft GSP release.
- Draft GSP issued in December 2018.
- Community engagement for feedback on draft GSP to begin via email and social media in December 2018 and via in-person meetings in January 2019.
- Final outreach report submitted to BWD in February 2019.

September 28, 2018

TO: Advisory Committee

FROM: Core Team

SUBJECT: Item III Groundwater Sustainability Plan: Review of Draft Chapters

The Core Team has presented background information regarding the required components of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP or Plan) at previous Advisory Committee (AC) Meetings. The Core Team will present a summary of working draft GSP content to obtain stakeholder input. The GSP chapters to be discussed at the October 4, 2018 AC Meeting are as follows:

- A. Chapter 1: Introduction to GSP
- B. Chapter 2: Plan Area and Basin Setting
- C. **Chapter 3: Sustainability Management Criteria (October 4, 2018 Meeting Focus)**

Chapter 1 Introduction to the GSP provides Plan information specific to the Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin including the following:

Purpose: Is to “manage and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results”.

Sustainability Goal: This GSP is intended to meet the overarching sustainability goal of SGMA to operate the Borrego Springs Subbasin within sustainable yield without causing an undesirable result. GSAs must achieve their sustainability goal within a maximum 20 years of GSP implementation.

Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency: The GSA is comprised of the County and the District, which have designated a Borrego Basin Plan Core Team (Core Team) and an Advisory Committee (AC) made up of stakeholders.

Legal Authority: On September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bills 1168 and 1319 and Assembly Bill 1739 as part of SGMA legislation, which provides local groundwater agencies the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater.

Chapter 2 Plan Area and Basin Setting provides detailed information on the Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin), Borrego Springs Groundwater Subbasin (Subbasin) and contributing watershed areas. This chapter presents all the technical information developed for the Basin and Subbasin based on previous studies, data compilation, and current and ongoing work from the Subbasin monitoring network. The primary sections presented in Chapter 2 Plan Area and Basin Setting of the GSP include the following:

- Description of Plan Area
 - Jurisdictional Areas and other Features

- Water Resource Monitoring and Management Programs
- Land Use
- Additional Components
- Notice and Communication
- Introduction to Basin Setting
 - Management Areas
 - Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions
 - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model
 - Water Budget

Chapter 3 Sustainability Management Criteria establishes the sustainability goals. The GSA must adopt a non-quantitative sustainability goal, or goals, that set the framework for determining what is significant and unreasonable for each sustainability indicator. These goals are primarily policy statements that communicate the GSA's vision for sustainable management of the Subbasin. The overarching sustainability goal is to maintain a viable water supply for current and future beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the Plan Area by curtailing groundwater production in a manner that brings groundwater use to within the Subbasin's estimated sustainable yield within 20 years, and by maintaining groundwater of suitable quality for current and future beneficial uses.

The GSA must define undesirable results in the Subbasin by determining what condition(s) in the Subbasin would be significant and unreasonable for each applicable sustainability indicator. This determination will be based on both a technical assessment of the sustainability indicators and an analysis of how the minimum thresholds may affect the interests of beneficial uses and users of groundwater, or land use and property interests.

The minimum thresholds are the quantitative measure of undesirable results and are set at individual monitoring sites or combination of monitoring sites. These thresholds will be established, based on an analysis of how they would impact beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the Subbasin and the determination of undesirable results for each sustainability indicator. Just as the minimum thresholds are the quantitative measure of undesirable results, measurable objectives are the quantitative measure of the sustainability goal. They are set at individual representative monitoring sites that are, preferably, the same as those selected for the minimum thresholds. If conditions at the monitoring sites meet or exceed the measurable objectives, the Subbasin is at the desired groundwater condition.

Specific working draft sustainability goals, undesirable results, minimum thresholds and measurable objectives will be presented at the AC meeting.

Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee (AC) & Core Team (CT)

Work Planning & Timeline Chart

Draft Version 09/27/2018

Date	Meeting / Milestone / Action	Topics to Discuss / Notes
October 2018		
October 4, 2018	Borrego AC Meeting #14 Location UCI 10:00am – 3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Overview of Elements of the GSP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 1 – 3. A series of three AC meetings will be held in October and November to allow the AC to review the key components of the GSP prior to public review. After a comprehensive overview by Core Team and consultants, the AC will be able to highlight any issues of concern and identify aspects that they would like further discussion on.
October 25, 2018	Borrego AC Meeting #15 Location TBD 10:00am – 3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Overview of Elements of the GSP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 3 (continued) and 4. GSP review meeting in October will focus on the issues highlighted by AC in the September meeting Discussion of SDAC Components Incorporated into GSP
November 2018		
November 29, 2018	Borrego AC Meeting #16 Location TBD 10:00am – 3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Overview of Elements of the GSP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 4 (continued) and 5. The AC and Core Team will have additional time to work through any remaining items of concern and/or to discuss any aspects of the GSP that still need clarification. AC straw poll consensus recommendation to support the adoption of the GSP as a whole.
December 2018		
December	Draft GSP made available for 60-day public review and comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Estimated date subject to change</i>

January through May 2019		
January through April/May 2019	GSA Development of Responses to Public Comments and Preparation of Final GSP	
Spring 2019	Borrego AC Meeting #17 Location TBD Time TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting to discuss any changes made to the GSP in response to public comments • The AC will provide formal consensus recommendation to support the adoption of the GSP as a whole.
Summer 2019		
	GSP Adoption by BWD and County Boards of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Estimated date subject to change</i>

AGENDA
Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin: Borrego Springs Subbasin
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
Advisory Committee (AC)

November 29, 2018 @ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: UCI Steele Burnand Research Center: 401 Tilting T, Borrego Springs CA 92004

Remote Access: <https://csus.zoom.us/j/486513475> **Dial In:** +1 669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 486513475#

- I. **OPENING PROCEDURES** [10:00 am – 10:45 am]
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Roll Call of Attendees
 - D. Review of Meeting Agenda
 - E. Approval of October 4, 2018 AC Meeting Minutes
 - F. Updates from the Core Team
 - G. Updates from Advisory Committee Members
- II. **GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: REVIEW OF DRAFT CHAPTERS** [10:45 am – 2:40 pm
with lunch approximately 12:00 – 12:30 pm]
 - A. Review of Chapters 2 & 3: Key Concept Slides from Oct. 4th AC Meeting and Opportunity to Clarify Technical/Informational Material presented on 10-04-2018
 - B. Chapter 4: Projects and Management Actions
- III. **CLOSING PROCEDURES** [2:40 pm – 3:00 pm]
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. General Public Comments (comments may be limited to 3 minutes)
 - C. Review Action Items from Previous AC Meetings, Next AC Meeting Date(s), and Next Steps

The next regular meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for **December 6, 2018**, at the UCI Steele/ Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center (*subject to change).

Please be advised that times associated with agenda are approximations only. Public comment periods will be accommodated at the end of each item listed for discussion and possible action. The duration of each comment period will be at the discretion of the meeting Facilitator. Any public record provided to the A/C less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, regarding any item on the open session portion of this agenda, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Office of the Borrego Water District, located at 806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs CA 92004.

The Borrego Springs Water District complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Persons with special needs should call Geoff Poole at 760-767-5806 at least 48 hours in advance of the start of this meeting, in order to enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Borrego SGMA Website: <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/SGMA/borrego-valley.html>

MINUTES

Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin: Borrego Springs Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

Advisory Committee (AC)

October 4, 2018 @ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: UCI Steele Burnand Research Center: 401 Tilting T, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Facilitator Meagan Wylie.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call of Attendees

Committee members: Present: Jim Seley, Rebecca Falk, Gary Haldeman, Bill

Berkley, Gina Moran, Diane Johnson, Ryan Hall, Jim
Wilson

Absent: Jack McGrory

Core Team members: Leanne Crow, County of San Jim Bennett, County of San Diego
Diego Geoff Poole, BWD

Dave Duncan, BWD Lyle Brecht, BWD

Staff/Consultants: Meagan Wylie, Center Trey Driscoll, Dudek, GSP

Consultant for Collaborative Policy Rachel Ralston, LeSar
Development (via

Wendy Quinn, Recording teleconference, Item II.A only)

Secretary Mason Einbund, County of
San Diego

Public: Michael Sadler, *Borrego Sun* Linda Haneline
Stephen Ballas Bill Haneline

Martha Deichler Kathy Dice

Marsha Boring Judy Haldeman

Suzanne Lawrence Maureen Hurley

Dan Wright Mike Seley

Esmeralda Lopez Cathy Milkey, Rams Hill

D. Review of Meeting Agenda

Meagan Wylie reviewed the meeting ground rules and Agenda.

E. Approval of August 30, 2018 AC Meeting Minutes

Member Falk proposed amendments to Item II.A, Baseline Pumping Allocations and Reductions.

After discussion, and additional changes by staff and AC, the wording was agreed upon. Upon motion by Member Berkley, seconded by Member Moran and unanimously carried by those present, the Minutes of the August 30, 2018 AC Meeting were approved as amended.

F. Updates from the Core Team

a. Transitions in Core Team Membership and AC Representation. Geoff Poole announced that BWD President Hart is retiring from the Board and Core Team, and Dave Duncan will replace her on the Board and Core Team. Gary Haldeman will replace Dave Duncan as the BWD Ratepayer Representative on the AC. Mr. Duncan pointed out that the Core Team has a significant workload in drafting the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and preparing for AC meetings. He

previously expressed frustration at the slow progress from the perspective of an AC member, but he now understands the amount of time and preparation that is required to support meaningful AC meetings. He suggested including discussion and questions from the previous AC meeting on each AC Agenda.

Member Haldeman next provided remarks on his new appointment as AC member, representing the ratepayers. He noted that he has lived in Borrego for nearly 20 years and has served on several boards of various organizations. Mr. Haldeman has assisted BWD on the current GSP severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) outreach effort as translator and interpreter for the recent Spanish speaking events. He reiterated Mr. Duncan's opinion that the workload was substantial, and he thanked the Core Team, consultants, and existing AC members on their critical efforts to-date.

b. Brief Report-out on August 31st Technical Meeting with Consultants. Trey Driscoll reported that he met with the Agricultural Alliance for Water and Resource Education's (AAWARE's) and T2 Borrego's consultants for the purpose of reviewing the hydrogeologic (water budget and groundwater) model used for GSP development. Ms. Wylie noted that slides referenced at this meeting were on the County SGMA website, and explained that the slides were primarily a compilation of technical material that has been presented at AC meetings over the last six months. The content being presented at this meeting is not new to anyone who has been carefully following the AC process. Member Falk asked whether when estimating pumping volumes via the model, if estimates are usually over or under the actual amount used, and by how much. Mr. Driscoll explained that the model includes variations in estimates based on land use. Estimates may change over time and the model will be updated regularly. Member Seley pointed out that AAWARE and T2 had requested additional meetings as follow up to this meeting, and asked whether they had been scheduled. Mr. Driscoll will work with the Core Team regarding next steps. Member Johnson expressed concern that these meetings should be documented. Mr. Bennett replied that documentation occurs through Core Team updates provided at each AC meeting, and relevant materials shared either via posting to the County SGMA website, or in AC Agenda Packets.

c. Metrics on Responses Received to Draft-Baseline Pumping Allocation Letters sent to Pumpers. Mr. Driscoll reported that the Core Team has received responses to 17 draft Baseline Pumping Allocations (BPA) in response to the 36 letters that were sent out to non-de minimis pumpers in June. These response letters are currently being reviewed by the CT and consultants, and responses will be provided as appropriate. Member Falk asked whether there was a plan to contact those pumpers who did not respond. Mr. Bennett explained that all letters were sent certified mail in order to confirm delivery, and noted that the CT is not assuming that a lack of response means pumpers are either agreeable or non-agreeable with the draft BPAs provided. He further replied that the next step is to revise the BPAs as appropriate and send out the new information to non-de minimis pumpers. In response to a request from Member Berkley, Mr. Bennett agreed to provide the names of who responded. Member Wilson requested the total acreage represented by the pumpers who responded, and Mr. Bennett agreed to compile it.

d. Consideration for Formation of Ad Hoc Committee for Emerging Constituents of Concern. Ms. Wylie invited the Committee's attention to a memo from the Core Team to the AC in the Agenda package. Mr. Driscoll reported he had reviewed the request to form an Ad Hoc Committee to study emerging chemicals of concern (ECCs). He explained that in California there is a robust process for regulating potable water quality, but the detection of many ECCs is so recent that potential health effects are unavailable. Since Borrego has little industrial activity, their presence here is unlikely, and potential ECCs in the Subbasin are likely limited to pharmaceuticals and pesticides. He explained nitrate is a widespread contaminant found in groundwater and is a reasonable surrogate to identify areas of the Subbasin that may be impacted by ECCs. He recommended against an Ad Hoc Committee at this

time, but will continue to watch for any changes in State regulations. Member Johnson asked Mr. Driscoll to provide links to articles supporting his position, including the use of nitrates as a surrogate rather than studying ECCs.

Member Falk cited John Peterson's concern that water from the North Management Area containing nitrates might flow into other areas of the basin. Mr. Driscoll disagreed, noting that this theory of interbasin water migration in such a direction was not supported by groundwater level data. The agricultural properties capture the flows.

e. Consideration of SB 1000 as it Relates to SGMA Process. Ms. Crow explained that Senate Bill (SB) 1000, which was adopted in 2016, added an "environmental justice" general plan element requirement for agencies with a "disadvantaged community." For SB 1000, a disadvantaged community is defined as an "area identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) as an area that is a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation." Although certain areas of the County were identified as a disadvantaged community, as defined by CalEPA, Borrego Springs was not. However, the County will be including an environmental justice element in the amended General Plan and is in the preliminary stages of determining how best to incorporate it.

G. Updates from Advisory Committee Members

Member Falk expressed difficulty in seeing small print in select slides at the meeting and would prefer an opportunity to comment on the previous meeting's technical content at the subsequent meeting. Ms. Wylie noted the standing agenda item that allows for as-need opportunity to clarify technical/information materials presented at the previous AC meeting. She also invited members' attention to the Work Planning and Timeline Chart in the Agenda package, where in it is indicated that the GSP will be reviewed sequentially by chapter over the next three meetings, with opportunity to revisit any content previously presented on.

H. As Needed Opportunity to Clarify Technical/Informational Material presented on

08/30/2018

None

II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Socioeconomic Efforts: Community Engagement Efforts Update

Rachel Ralston reported on the September 19, 2018 community meetings. An English session and a Spanish session were hosted. The purpose was to educate community members on SGMA, solicit feedback and clarify questions. A summary was provided in the Agenda package. Topics included water rates, economic impacts of SGMA, water use allocations, sustainability strategy and GSP development. Future community meetings and communication preferences were discussed. The next steps are possible meetings in November and completion of outreach in February 2019. Fourteen persons attended the English session, and twenty persons attended the Spanish session. Information on proposed pumping fees and penalties may be included in the next community meeting Agenda, if these topics have been reviewed and discussed by the AC previously.

B. Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process

Mr. Bennett explained that if a project requires a discretionary action by a hearing body, then a CEQA review is required. SGMA provides that CEQA is not applicable to the GSP document development process, but it is applicable to any projects that would implement actions pursuant to the GSP. He went on to outline the EIR process, which includes an initial study, notice of preparation and

scoping meeting, draft EIR, public comment period, response to comments, and final EIR and certification hearing. In the case of GSP implementation projects, the County would likely be the lead agency for the EIR, with the Borrego Water District acting as a responsible agency. Mr. Bennett showed a checklist of environmental issues, and described various opportunities for public input. In Borrego, the Sponsor Group would be involved in an EIR process. The process typically takes 18 months to two years.

Member Falk had submitted questions to the Department of Water Resources regarding CEQA and EIR processes, which Mr. Bennett verbally reviewed and addressed: She asked whether the GSP could be changed based on new findings after submission to DWR, and specifically, the estimated current sustainable pumping rate of 5,700 acre-feet per year and effects on the SDAC. Mr. Bennett replied that changes to the GSP would be considered during the five-year updates. Environmental reviews do not typically include economic issues. Member Falk further inquired whether all aspects of the GSP would go into effect upon BWD and Board approval, and Mr. Bennett replied that any projects requiring CEQA review cannot be implemented until the process has been completed. More information may be provided at a future AC meeting.

Member Wilson asked whether one EIR would cover all following projects, or would an EIR be required for each one. Mr. Bennett indicated that following would likely be evaluated as one project, but the details have not yet been worked out. Member Wilson asked about mitigation for previous following, and Mr. Bennett replied that the water credit program may be considered and evaluated. Member Moran inquired about a legal review of the GSP. Ms. Crow explained that a court validation process is anticipated following adoption of the GSP.

III. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: REVIEW OF DRAFT CHAPTERS

A. Chapter 1: Introduction to GSP

Mr. Driscoll summarized GSP Chapter 1, which explains that the purpose of the GSP is to manage and use groundwater in a manner that can be sustained without adverse effects. BWD has water supply and management authority, and the County has land use responsibility. The chapter also explains the AC and the Core Team. Member Johnson inquired about the Plan Manager and the legal authority for such. Mr. Driscoll replied that Mr. Bennett is the designated Plan Manager, and the legal authority is provided by the California Water Code and Code of Regulations.

B. Chapter 2: Plan Area and Basin Setting

Mr. Driscoll explained the plan area, monitoring and management program, land use and additional components. Sixty-seven percent of the land in the basin is privately owned, twenty-seven percent by the State, five percent by non-profits and one percent each by the County and special districts. Borrego Springs is surrounded by the State Park. There are 118 wells in the basin, 52 de minimis, 40 agricultural, 13 golf course, 8 municipal and five small water systems. Water resources monitoring and management programs include the water credits program, the County groundwater ordinance, the groundwater mitigation program, AB 3030, ESA, California water well standards, California State Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM), Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) and the Clean Water Act.

The chapter also addresses the County General Plan, the Borrego Springs Community Plan, land use and zoning. Beneficial uses and users include agriculture, municipal, industrial, recreation, water credits, domestic users (non-diminimis), diminimis and groundwater dependent ecosystems. Member Wilson requested the percentage used by each user, and Mr. Driscoll agreed to provide them.

The Committee broke for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Mr. Driscoll went on to explain the hydrogeologic computer model, history, budget and Management Areas. Rainfall, temperature and evapotranspiration were considered. Maps depicted geologic structures and topography, as well as the San Andreas, San Jacinto and Elsinore faults. Groundwater monitoring is included, and Mr. Driscoll noted that five more monitoring wells will be added. He explained that two-thirds of the basin's recharge comes from Coyote Creek.

Member Falk reported she had spoken with Tim Ross of the Department of Water Resources about water quality sampling, and he said sampling should theoretically be available at metered sites. Mr. Driscoll explained that conducting water sampling involves a policy decision. SGMA requires that the GSA adopt a non-quantitative sustainability goal setting a framework to determine what is significant and unreasonable for each sustainability indicator (critical lowering of groundwater levels, land subsidence, depletion of surface water, and beneficial use such as groundwater dependent ecosystems). The sustainability goal is to maintain a viable water supply for current and future beneficial use and users of groundwater within the plan area.

Member Seley pointed out that a prior report showed that the model indicates less water than may actually be in the basin. He asked what is being done to balance this discrepancy. Mr. Driscoll explained that SGMA requires the use of the best available information at the time, and that has been done. The model is running without complete meter data, so estimates had to be used for agriculture pumping use. More pumping data will be collected throughout the plan life, and the GSP will be updated throughout implementation. Significant and unreasonable undesirable effects must be avoided. Member Haldeman asked for the definition of "significant and unreasonable," and Mr. Driscoll replied that that is up to the stakeholders; SGMA does not define it.

Member Johnson asked whether the slides could be enlarged on the website, and Ms. Wylie agreed to work on this issue with Ms. Crow.

C. Chapter 3: Sustainability Management Criteria

Mr. Driscoll explained that sustainability management criteria included avoidance of lowering groundwater levels and reduction of groundwater storage. Member Haldeman pointed out that this could define "significant and unreasonable" undesirable effects. Director Brecht asked whether "significant and unreasonable" could be framed in economic terms, and Mr. Driscoll replied that it could. Another sustainable management criterion to avoid is degraded water quality. The GSP will establish minimum thresholds, a quantitative measure of undesirable results. The limit for recoverable groundwater in storage is 152,000-acre feet.

Mr. Duncan asked whether the GSA has a responsibility to protect de minimis pumpers from their wells running dry. Mr. Driscoll explained that analysis of de minimis wells has not been completed. He will look at whether it is viable to connect them to the water system. SGMA requires that all beneficial users be considered. Moving water around the basin (intrabasin water transfer) is also being studied. Member Johnson asked for the definition of "recoverable" groundwater in storage, as referenced in one of Mr. Driscoll's slides. Mr. Driscoll explained that is the amount that could be removed in case of an extended drought. Member Haldeman suggested using the term "useable" instead of "recoverable." Member Johnson suggested some links in the slides to a glossary explaining the terms, and a graphic of what a well looks like.

Mr. Driscoll noted that monitoring sites are required to measure objectives and thresholds. The GSP will need to define initial sustainability indicators, thresholds and negative results. They can be adjusted as the GSP progresses. Member Hall asked whether, if sustainability is reached in ten years, the GSP would continue. Mr. Driscoll explained that yes, the basin would still have to be managed, and reports submitted to DWR to show groundwater use continues to be sustainable.

IV. CLOSING PROCEDURES

A. Correspondence

None

B. General Public Comments

None

C. Review Action Items from Previous AC Meetings, Next AC Meeting Date(s), and Next

Steps

Ms. Wylie announced that the Core Team will require postponement of the tentatively scheduled October 25 meeting in order to continue preparations of technical material. She will draft the action items, work on meeting dates for October and November, and work with the County to post this meeting's slides on the County website. She asked the AC to be prepared with questions on the slides presented today at the next AC meeting.

The next AC meeting was tentatively scheduled for November 29, 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

November 20, 2018

TO: Advisory Committee

FROM: Core Team

SUBJECT: Item II Groundwater Sustainability Plan: Review of Draft Chapters

The Core Team has presented background information regarding the required components of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP or Plan) at previous Advisory Committee (AC) Meetings. The Core Team will present a summary of working draft GSP content to obtain stakeholder input. The GSP chapters to be discussed at the November 29, 2018 AC Meeting are as follows:

1. Chapter 2: Plan Area and Basin Setting – Review
2. Chapter 3: Sustainability Management Criteria – Review
3. **Chapter 4: Projects and Management Actions (November 29, 2018 Meeting Focus)**

Chapter 4 Projects and Management Actions provides information and details on six identified projects and management action categories to be evaluated as part of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The six projects and management action categories include:

1. Project 1 – Water Trading Program
2. Project 2 – Water Conservation
3. Project 3 – Pumping Reduction Program
4. Project 4 – Voluntary Fallowing of Agricultural Land
5. Project 5 – Water Quality Optimization
6. Project 6 – Intra-Subbasin Water Transfers

Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee (AC) & Core Team (CT)

Work Planning & Timeline Chart

Draft Version 11/19/2018

Date	Meeting / Milestone / Action	Topics to Discuss / Notes
November 2018		
November 29, 2018	Borrego AC Meeting #15 Location UCI 10:00am – 3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Overview of Elements of the GSP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 2 & 3 (review) and 4. GSP review meeting in November will focus on the issues highlighted by AC in the October meeting. Discussion of SDAC Components Incorporated into GSP
December 2018		
December 6, 2018	Borrego AC Meeting #16 Location UCI 10:00am – 3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Overview of Elements of the GSP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 4 (continued) and 5. The AC and Core Team will have additional time to work through any remaining items of concern and/or to discuss any aspects of the GSP that still need clarification. AC straw poll consensus recommendation to support the adoption of the GSP as a whole.
December	Draft GSP made available for 60-day public review and comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Estimated date subject to change</i>
January through May 2019		
January through April/May 2019	GSA Development of Responses to Public Comments and Preparation of Final GSP	
Spring 2019	Borrego AC Meeting #17 Location TBD Time TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting to discuss any changes made to the GSP in response to public comments The AC will provide formal consensus recommendation to support the adoption of the GSP as a whole.
Summer 2019		
	GSP Adoption by BWD and County Boards of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Estimated date subject to change</i>



DRAFT WORKPRODUCT



Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin
Borrego Springs Subbasin
Baseline Pumping Allocation

AAWARE Meeting, San Diego County Farm Bureau, Escondido, CA

November 16, 2018

Geosyntec[®]
consultants

DUDEK

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BASELINE PUMPING ALLOCATION

BASELINE PUMPING ALLOCATION

Updated Maximum Annual Groundwater Use By Sector

Sector	Maximum Annual Production (Acre-Feet; Average Eto)	Maximum Annual Production (Acre Feet; 5-Year Maximum Eto, updated water use types, and acreages)	Maximum Annual Production Difference (Acre-Feet; Updated minus Original)	Updated Percent Water Use by Sector
BWD	2,461.00	2,731	269.50	11.34%
Recreation	3,788.88	4,047	258.23	16.81%
Agriculture	14,245.92	15,633	1,387.15	64.94%
Other Users	57.58	63	5.13	0.26%
Water Credits*	1,600.00	1,600		6.65%
Total Subbasin Water Use	22,153.38	24,073	1,920.01	100%

*Water credits are based on contractually issued value and have not been updated to reflect updated water use factors.

BASELINE PUMPING ALLOCATION

Updated Annual Water Use Factors

Type	Plant Factor (MOA)	Plant Factor Range (WUCLOS IV)	Proposed Plant Factor Used	Average Eto	5-Year Maximum Eto ^a	Irrigation Efficiency	Leaching Factor	Annual Water Use Estimate (5-Year Maximum Eto)
Citrus with Leaching	0.65	0.4 - 0.6	0.65	6.02	6.45	0.8	1.2	6.28
Palms	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	0.5	6.02	6.45	0.8	N/A	4.03
Nursery	0.6	0.4 - 0.6	0.6	6.02	6.45	0.8	N/A	4.83
Potatoes	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.02	6.45	0.8	N/A	2.50
Turf	0.63	0.6 - 0.8	0.7	6.02	6.45	0.7	N/A	6.45
Landscape (Decorative)	N/A	0.30 - 0.6	0.45	6.02	6.45	0.80	N/A	3.63
Landscape (Native)	N/A	>0.1 - 0.6	0.3	6.02	6.45	0.7	N/A	2.76
Ponds ^b	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.75
Date Palms with Leaching (includes ground cover)	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	0.6	6.02	6.45	0.8	1.2	7.74

a. Reference Evapotranspiration based on maximum annual CIMIS Station #207, Borrego Springs from 2010 to 2014.

b. Pond evaporation is based on pan evaporation data from Imperial Valley (U.S. Dept. of Interior 2004).

BASELINE PUMPING ALLOCATION

Calculations For Citrus Using ET Method

$$\left(\frac{Eto * PF * 1 \text{ Acre}}{IE} * CLF \right) = \text{Annual Water Use Factor}$$

Where:

Eto = Reference Evapotranspiration (6.45 feet/year, from the year 2010, which is maximum ETo during the baseline period of 2010 through 2014)

PF = Plant Factor (0.65)

IE = Irrigation Efficiency (Assumes 80% Efficient)

CLF = Citrus and Date Palms Leaching Factor (Assumes 20% for Leaching)

$$\frac{Eto (6.446 \text{ feet}) * PF (0.65) * 1 \text{ Acre}}{IE(0.8)} * CLF (1.2) = 6.28 \text{ acre-feet/acre}$$

Sources for Calculation

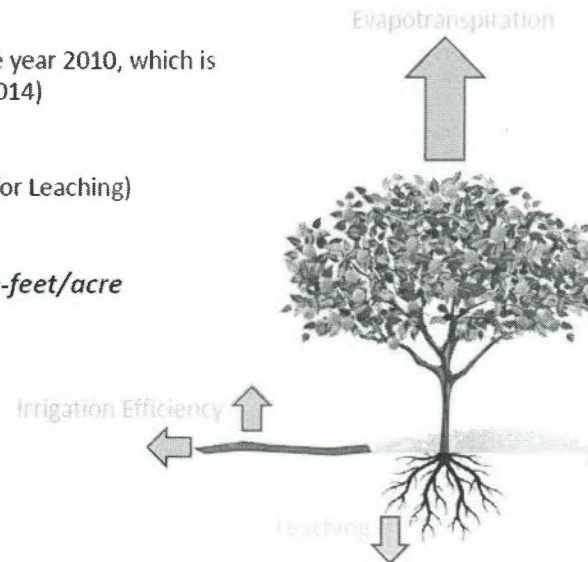
Source for Eto: California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) Station 207, located at Road Runner Golf Course in Borrego Springs, CA

Source for PF: UC Cooperative Extension and Department of Water Resources, 2000, A Guide to Estimating Irrigation Water Needs of Landscape Plantings in California, p 6.

Source for IE: Irrigation Association, 2005, Turf and Landscape Irrigation Best Management Practices.

Sources for CLF: Rhoades J.D. 1974 Drainage for salinity control. In: Drainage for Agriculture. Van Schilfgaarde J. (ed). Amer. Soc. Agron. Monograph No. 17, pp 433-462.

Rhoades J.D. and Merrill S.D. 1976 Assessing the suitability of water for irrigation: Theoretical and empirical approaches. In: Prognosis of Salinity and Alkalinity. FAO Soils Bulletin 31. FAO, Rome. pp. 69-110.



Meeting with Aaware, 11/16/2018

BASELINE PUMPING ALLOCATION

Calculations for Date Palms Using ET Method

Type	Plant Factor (MOA)	Plant Factor Range (WUCLOS)	Proposed Plant Factor Used	5-Year Maximum Eto	Irrigation Efficiency	Leaching Factor	Water Use Estimate (5-Year Maximum ETo)
Date Palms ^a	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	0.6	6.45	0.8	1.2	5.80
30% Ground Cover (Turf)	0.63	0.6 – 0.8	0.7	6.45	0.7	N/A	1.93 ^b
Date Palms With Leaching							7.74

a. Bejeweled dates are Phoenix Dactylifera which are Moderate/Medium in WUCLOS IV (0.4 – 0.6).

b. Assumes 30% ground cover for Date Palms

DRAFT WORKPRODUCT

BASELINE PUMPING ALLOCATION

Monthly and Annual Reference ETo CIMIS Station 207

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Total (Inches)	Annual Total (Feet)
2008 ^a	0.46	3.43	6.16	7.6	9.3	10.02	9.07	6.76	6.77	5.13	3.36	2.27	70.33	5.86
2009	2.68	5.16	5.69	7.07	8.76	8.28	8.87	8.71	7.21	5	3.08	1.96	72.47	6.04
2010	2.41	3.21	8.81	9.84	8.58	9.22	9.51	9.11	7.44	4.36	2.88	1.98	77.35	6.45
2011	2.68	3.35	5.55	7.12	8.77	8.23	7.98	8.47	6.43	4.92	2.72	2.11	68.33	5.69
2012	2.85	3.56	5.33	6.77	7.66	9.47	8.77	8.04	7.09	5.04	3.2	2.23	70.01	5.83
2013	2.54	3.57	5.75	7.56	8.64	9.02	8.01	7.57	6.46	5.05	3	2.27	69.44	5.79
2014	2.67	3.66	5.94	7.23	8.66	9.13	8.83	8	6.97	4.55	3.14	1.58	70.36	5.86
2015	2.17	3.54	5.82	7.22	7.96	8.51	8.76	8.74	6.54	5.15	3.37	2.4	70.18	5.85
2016	2.42	4.15	6.35	7.44	8.97	9.79	10.17	8.91	6.51	5.17	3.37	1.99	75.24	6.27
2017	2.33	3.28	6.27	8.18	9.14	10.2	9.7	9.43	6.99	5.38	3.16	2.47	76.53	6.38
9-Year Average	2.53	3.72	6.17	7.60	8.57	9.09	8.96	8.55	6.85	4.96	3.10	2.11	72.21	6.02
													5-Year Maximum	6.45

- a. 2008 excluded from the 9-year average as the record for that year was not complete data.
- b. CIMIS Station # 207 located in Borrego Springs. CIMIS Station # 207 is located on the Road Runner Golf Course, Latitude: 33.268447; Longitude: -116.36505



Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin
Borrego Springs Subbasin
Baseline Pumping Allocation



QUESTIONS?

Geosyntec[®]
consultants

DUDEK

AGENDA
Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin: Borrego Springs Subbasin
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
Advisory Committee (AC)

January 31, 2019 @ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Borrego Springs Library, Community Room: 2580 Country Club Rd., Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Remote Access: <https://csus.zoom.us/j/490454994> **Dial In:** +16699006833 **Meeting ID:** 490454994#

- I. OPENING PROCEDURES [10:00 am – 10:45 am]**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Roll Call of Attendees
 - D. Review of Meeting Agenda
 - E. Approval of November 29, 2018 AC Meeting Minutes
 - F. Updates from the Core Team
 - G. Updates from Advisory Committee Members
- II. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: REVIEW OF DRAFT CHAPTERS [10:45 am – 2:15 pm]**

with lunch approximately 12:00 – 12:30 pm]

 - A. Chapter 5: GSP Implementation
 - B. GSP Appendices
 - C. Wrap Up Discussion of Entire GSP
- III. CLOSING PROCEDURES [2:15 pm – 3:00 pm]**
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. General Public Comments (comments may be limited to 3 minutes)
 - C. Review Action Items from Previous AC Meetings, Next AC Meeting Date(s), and Next Steps

The next regular meeting of the Advisory Committee has not yet been scheduled. It is anticipated to follow public review of the GSP in **Summer 2019**, location TBD.

Please be advised that times associated with agenda are approximations only. Public comment periods will be accommodated at the end of each item listed for discussion and possible action. The duration of each comment period will be at the discretion of the meeting Facilitator. Any public record provided to the A/C less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, regarding any item on the open session portion of this agenda, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Office of the Borrego Water District, located at 806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs CA 92004.

The Borrego Springs Water District complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Persons with special needs should call Geoff Poole at 760-767-5806 at least 48 hours in advance of the start of this meeting, in order to enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Borrego SGMA Website: <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/SGMA/borrego-valley.html>

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Advisory Committee (AC)

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DRAFT MINUTES
Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin: Borrego Springs Subbasin
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
Advisory Committee (AC)
November 29, 2018 @ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: UCI Steele Burnand Research Center: 401 Tilting T, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Facilitator Meagan Wylie.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call of Attendees

Committee members: Present: Jim Seley, Rebecca Falk, Gary Haldeman, Bill Berkley, Gina Moran, Diane Johnson, Jim Wilson, Jack McGrory (via teleconference)

Absent: Ryan Hall

Core Team members: Leanne Crow, County of San Diego Jim Bennett, County of San Diego
Geoff Poole, BWD

Dave Duncan, BWD Lyle Brecht, BWD

Staff/Consultants: Meagan Wylie, Center for Collaborative Policy Trey Driscoll, Dudek, GSP Consultant
Mason Einbund, County of San Diego
Wendy Quinn, Recording Secretary

Public: Michael Sadler, *Borrego Sun* Linda Haneline
Stephen Ballas Bill Haneline
Martha Deichler Casey Brown
Marsha Boring Susan Percival
Mike Seley, Seley Ranch Cathy Milkey, Rams Hill
Suzanne Lawrence

D. Review of Meeting Agenda

Meagan Wylie reviewed the meeting ground rules and Agenda.

E. Approval of October 4, 2018 AC Meeting Minutes

Upon motion by Member Moran, seconded by Member Falk and unanimously carried by those present, the Minutes of the October 4, 2018 AC Meeting were approved as amended (Item I.F.d, second paragraph, second sentence, change "interbasin" to "intrabasin"; last sentence, replace "properties" with "pumping wells"; Item II.B, first sentence, after "discretionary action by a hearing body," add "for example, a General Plan Amendment").

F. Updates from the Core Team

Geoff Poole reported on the November 15 community meeting, addressing LeSar Development's socioeconomic study and focusing on Borrego's Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) status. The study will be funded by a State grant under Proposition 1. The meeting was conducted in English with Spanish translation, and over 100 people attended. It was an opportunity for the community members to share concerns regarding Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation. Many expressed concerns about the future of Borrego Springs, and Members Falk and Wilson weighed in on news articles they had read on the subject.

Jim Bennett reported on an Agricultural Alliance for Water and Resource Education (AAWARE) meeting held November 16 which he attended along with Mr. Poole and Trey Driscoll. They discussed the proposed Baseline Pumping Allocations (BPAs), and some revisions to draft BPAs that have been made in response to

comments and additional information. Mr. Driscoll invited the Committee's attention to information in the Agenda package relative to the changes, and answered questions from the Members. Mr. Bennett noted that the methodology to calculate the BPAs was developed based on maximum water use for the years 2010 through 2014. Users from all sectors again expressed concerns that they had already conserved water since that time, and will be required to conserve more going forward. Mr. Driscoll pointed out that water demands can fluctuate significantly due to seasonal residents and tourists, which is part of the rationale for using the highest annual water consumption during this five-year period as the BPA value.

Member Falk requested the number of water credits currently owned by BWD and the number of retired credits, and Mr. Driscoll agreed to provide them. Member Falk asked whether those would be subject to reduction, and Mr. Driscoll replied that had not been finalized. Discussion followed regarding whether BWD water supplied to Rams Hill was included in the BPA calculations, and Mr. Driscoll said that it was. Subsequently, Rams Hill drilled its own wells and is no longer using BWD supplied water.

BWD Director Lyle Brecht discussed the recent defeat of the Proposition 3 water bond measure, a public initiative. There is a possibility it could be resurrected in 2020 as a legislative initiative. In this case, BWD could provide funds for lobbying, but could not participate in marketing efforts in support of a legislative initiative. Since the 2018 defeat was by a close margin, he predicted more funding would be necessary in 2020 if the proposition is included on the ballot.

Member Berkley referred to a recent editorial suggesting that the County assist Borrego Springs financially. Mr. Bennett replied that the County remains committed to looking at all options for the future. Member McGrory suggested approaching the County regarding the possible designation of part of Borrego's Transient Occupancy Tax and Property Tax funds to the GSP implementation.

Ms. Wylie noted that some AC Members had requested information on possible intervention actions by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in the event sustainability is not reached by 2040. She agreed to check with SWRCB about posting some slides they have available on the subject on the County website and discuss them at a future AC meeting. Member Falk reported that she and Member Johnson had spoken with SWRCB representatives, and they offered to attend an AC meeting.

G. Updates from Advisory Committee Members

Member Haldeman reported that during the GSP non-mandatory public review period, anticipated after the January 2019 AC meeting, he planned to have weekly ratepayer meetings, perhaps at an open house at a restaurant. He hoped to discuss with others how to recruit attendees and urge people to bring friends to the meetings. He planned to write a letter to the *Borrego Sun* editor on the subject. Ms. Wylie reminded him that Mr. Poole remains available to attend these meetings to help share information, clarify technical content, etc.

Member Falk asked whether the Core Team votes by consensus or some other method, and who makes the final decision on their issues. Ms. Wylie explained that the Core Team does not function by voting on issues. The work of the Core Team to develop the draft GSP is conducted via a collaborative process. The County Board of Supervisors and the BWD Board make the final decision to adopt the GSP. Director Brecht added that the Department of Water Resources' regulations drive the process, and Mr. Bennett added that it is also driven by the SGMA regulations. The County and BWD discuss the development of a legally and scientifically defensible GSP, and the respective legal teams are involved. The Core Team members go back to their respective Boards with recommendations, and the County and BWD are equal partners. Member Falk noted that if the AC doesn't reach consensus, the Core Team makes the decision. Ms. Wylie explained that the Core Team would make a recommendation to their Boards regarding the GSP and its contents. Mr. Bennett noted that if the Board of Supervisors and the BWD Board disagreed and ultimately did not adopt the GSP, the SWRCB would intervene.

Member Falk also inquired about Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) and the declining water level in the Borrego Sink. She wondered whether the condition of mesquite in the area had impacted decisions as to how GDEs will be addressed in the GSP. Mr. Driscoll replied that mesquite roots can go as deep as 100 feet, but average around 15 feet in Borrego Springs. The GSP will include plans to mitigate declining groundwater.

Member Falk asked whether de minimis pumpers had been informed of the GSP development. Mr. Driscoll replied that the data regarding de minimis pumpers was mainly from aerial photographs, and they are exempt from the GSP. They have not been contacted individually unless they were assigned a BPA. Mr. Bennett reported there are 52 identified de minimis pumpers, and he thought it would be a good idea to send them letters to make them aware of SGMA and the GSP. They could become non-de minimis users in the future, and the Core Team agreed to look into contacting them.

Member Wilson reported that new growers are installing more sprinklers. He wondered how BPAs would be established for them since they have no water use history. Mr. Driscoll said if that parcel of land was not being pumped during 2010-2014, they would not have been assigned a BPA. Mr. Poole pointed out that the new herb farm was once a palm grove, and Mr. Driscoll noted that they may have been assigned a BPA based on that. Member Haldeman agreed to supply the relevant parcel numbers for the agricultural operations near Di Giorgio Road. Member McGrory suggested considering a moratorium on new farms.

The Committee broke for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12:35 p.m.

II. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: REVIEW OF DRAFT CHAPTERS

A. Review of Chapters 2 & 3: Key Concept Slides from Oct. 4th AC Meeting and Opportunity to Clarify Technical/Informational Material presented on 10-04-2018

Mr. Bennett referred to Mr. Driscoll's review of draft GSP Chapters 1 through 3 at the last AC meeting. Some AC Members requested a simpler version to take back to their constituents. He planned to do the same for Chapters 4 and 5 in the future. Mr. Bennett's slide presentation will be included on the County website. He explained that Chapter 1, the introduction, explained the purpose of the GSA, the AC, and the SGMA legal authority. Chapter 2 describes the plan area (the Borrego Sub Basin and the contributing watershed), the basin setting and the hydrogeologic conceptual models associated with groundwater levels and quality. It also addresses the Management Areas. Chapter 3 outlines the goal of the GSP, to maintain a viable water supply for current and future beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the plan area while avoiding undesirable results. Minimum thresholds are established as well as measurable objectives.

Member Duncan asked whether GDEs were considered in calculating the 5,700 acre-feet per year sustainable yield. Mr. Driscoll explained that SGMA requires considering all beneficial uses of groundwater, including GDEs and it will be addressed through projects and management actions.

Member Seley asked how the recharge from Coyote Creek was being monitored. Mr. Driscoll replied that from 1945 to 2016, the USGS developed a model to estimate recharge. The GSA took manual measurements twice a year and calibrated that model.

Member Falk inquired about two wells on the map slide that showed high nitrate levels. Mr. Driscoll replied that one is a monitoring well in the vicinity of the wastewater treatment plant, and the other is on private property. Member Falk asked Mr. Poole to obtain more information on the private well.

Member Moran noted that at the community meeting, concern was expressed that people were scared about the future of the Valley. She asked whether Mr. Bennett's slide presentation would be used in future meetings. Mr. Bennett explained that the presentation was intended for people reviewing the GSP.

Michael Sadler inquired about the monitoring program. Mr. Driscoll reported that BWD has added five more wells, and there is historical data from the North Management Area. The wells are sampled semiannually. He anticipated presenting an update at a later time.

Regarding the projected drop in groundwater levels, Member Wilson asked at what point would the water no longer meet the quality requirements of Title 22. Mr. Driscoll explained that water quality concerns are site specific in the South Management Area. In the Central Management Area, all BWD supply wells meet quality standards.

Member Johnson inquired about risks to the big horn sheep associated with water reduction, and whether recent DWR updates to climate change data had been reflected in the model. Mr. Driscoll replied that SGMA

requires consideration of all GDE plants and animals, and that the model had been updated with the recent climate change data.

Cathy Milkey noted that it would be helpful to show which wells are BWD's and which are private, and which are for domestic use and which for irrigation.

Suzanne Lawrence reported that the Union of Concerned Citizens has information available on how to communicate with the public and how to explain technical concepts. Ms. Wylie asked her to send a link and she will disseminate it.

B. Chapter 4: Projects and Management Actions

Mr. Driscoll outlined draft GSP Chapter 4. He presented a list of six proposed projects and management actions: The water trading program, water conservation, pumping reduction program, voluntary fallowing of agricultural land, water quality optimization, and intra Sub Basin water transfer. Potential negative results would be lowering of groundwater levels and storage, and degradation of water quality and GDEs. He explained that the Valley is totally dependent on groundwater, and water use is primarily for agriculture and recreation. A reduction of approximately 75 percent will be necessary to reach sustainability.

The water trading program would likely replace the existing water credit program and would be administered by the GSA. It would potentially allow long or short-term lease of BPA amounts. Water conservation would include separate components for agriculture, recreation and municipal.

The pumping reduction program would be for non-de minimis pumpers based on their BPAs. Pumping would be reduced incrementally on an annual basis as necessary and updated every five years. Member Seley observed that when the reductions are adjusted, if a pumper's level is better than estimated, he/she should be able to take advantage of that. Member Berkley pointed out that if the area surrounding an active farm is fallowed, the water level would rise. Should the farmer benefit from that? Mr. Bennett explained that SGMA is an adaptive process and will be reviewed every five years to determine if changes are warranted.

Mr. Driscoll went on to explain the voluntary agricultural fallowing program, which would convert farmland into low water use areas such as open space, public land or other development. Intended land and water use after fallowing and potential environmental impacts will be considered. Member Wilson asked who would determine the use of the land after fallowing. Mr. Driscoll replied that a CEQA review would be required for the voluntary fallowing program. Mr. Bennett added that currently if they are not part of the program, the farmer could simply turn off the water; but water trading would not be available, and if they want to subdivide, they would need County approval. Member Falk asked about provisions to avoid water credit hoarding, and provisions for biological mitigation. Mr. Driscoll replied that anti-hoarding is a concern and the GSA may consider options to address that, along with fallowing requirements that will be evaluated during the CEQA process.

Water quality optimization includes investigation, development of work plans and implementation of water quality education projects. It could include direct water treatment or indirect treatment such as blending new wells and pipelines or reallocating pumping from existing wells. Intra Sub Basin transfers would establish a method for conveyance of water from one area to another within the basin. For example, water high in nitrates from the North Management Area could be used for irrigation in the Central or South Areas.

Mr. Driscoll outlined the benefits of each project and management action. The water trading program would reallocate the available water supply. The water conservation program, pumping reduction and the voluntary fallowing of agricultural land would reduce water use. The water quality optimization would maintain and improve water quality for beneficial use. The intra Sub Basin transfer program would benefit water quality, level and storage. Mr. Driscoll reviewed the circumstances under which projects and management actions would be implemented, the related CEQA requirements and other permits and regulatory processes, and legal authority.

Member Berkley brought up the potential economic impacts from lost employment in farms and golf courses, and the associated decline in real estate values. Director Brecht explained that there is nothing in SGMA designating economic impacts as an undesirable effect, but it is definitely important. However, if the overdraft itself is not addressed, the resulting economic impacts would be worse. Member Johnson asked whether a project and management action could address economic impacts, and Director Brecht replied that DWR was thinking

about changing the SGMA requirements to include economic impacts. Member McGrory suggested meeting with the County to see how they might help.

IV. CLOSING PROCEDURES

A. Correspondence

None

B. General Public Comments

Casey Brown stated he was encouraged; we are not in a disaster. Farmers have reduced their water use, technology is changing rapidly, and there are solutions.

C. Review Action Items from Previous AC Meetings, Next AC Meeting Date(s), and Next Steps

Ms. Wylie announced that the December 6 AC meeting had been rescheduled to January 31. The draft GSP is anticipated to be released in February.

The next AC meeting was scheduled for January 31, 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee (AC) & Core Team (CT)

Work Planning & Timeline Chart

Draft Version 01/23/2019

Date	Meeting / Milestone / Action	Topics to Discuss / Notes
January 2019		
January 31, 2019	Borrego AC Meeting #16 Location: Borrego Springs Library 10:00am – 3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Overview of Elements of the GSP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 5 (final chapter) GSP Appendices Wrap up discussion on entire GSP The AC and Core Team will have additional time to work through any remaining items of concern and/or to discuss any aspects of the GSP that still need clarification.
February/March 2019		
	Draft GSP made available for 60-day public review and comment	<i>Estimated date subject to change</i>
Spring 2019		
April/May through June/July 2019	GSA Development of Responses to Public Comments and Preparation of Final GSP	
Summer 2019		
	Borrego AC Meeting #17 Location TBD Time TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting to discuss any changes made to the GSP in response to public comments The AC will provide formal consensus recommendation to support the adoption of the GSP as a whole.
Fall 2019		
	GSP Adoption by BWD and County Boards of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Estimated date subject to change</i>

Subject: Addressing Community Concerns, Agenda Item GSP AC

Date: Friday, December 7, 2018 at 1:36:01 PM Pacific Standard Time

From: Rebecca Falk

To: Lyle Brecht

dave duncan
Crow, Leanne
Geoff Poole

, Bennett, Jim
, Wylie, Meagan D

Dear Borrego GSP Core Team Members,

I think an agenda item addressing community concerns is very much needed, as I will explain below. I am requesting an agenda item at our next GSP AC Meeting addressing these concerns directly and in simple language most people can understand. In addition, I highly recommend finding a way to address these concerns before the January 31 meeting, perhaps via the local newspaper or a brief that gets posted at the County SGMA web page for Borrego so that it can be circulated.

The recent LA Times/SD Trib article ("Defeat of water bond measure bodes disaster for the desert community of Borrego Springs") underlined and triggered alarm in the community about how municipal ratepayers and the town will survive the GSP outcome. The recent community outreach meeting did not clear up the concerns underlined by the article, and was the basis in major part for the article mentioned above. This alarm is being talked about fairly widely at this point, across sectors, and should not be ignored. The uncertainty about how municipal water and rates will be affected by the GSP is becoming a big problem.

Questions that need full and more clear answers that I believe do have available answers are:

1. Do ratepayers have to reduce 75% or 76% from current usage?
2. How much do ratepayers have to reduce their current water usage?
3. When will those reductions for municipal begin apart from calculations on paper, i.e. wet water reductions? How soon will BWD's water supply be affected?
4. How will BWD's proposed proportional reductions impact future water rates for municipal users? And to simplify: how much will our water bills rise because we have to purchase water under this plan?
5. What is going to keep other sectors from buying up available water, leaving municipal without enough water? And what is going to keep water being held hostage at prices BWD cannot afford to purchase without impacting ratepayers unfairly, since it seems BWD will have to purchase some water under the GSP?
6. Agricultural pumping accounts for the majority of water use that has overdrafted our basin. Where are assurances that this won't continue? How will reductions on the part of basin pumpers be enforced and how will not meeting annual pumping reductions be penalized?
7. If BWD customers have already reduced their water use by 50% per dwelling unit equivalent (EDU) since 2010, how is this being credited to BWD and ratepayers so ratepayers are not being penalized?

These ratepayer concerns have not been adequately addressed in AC meetings in the minds of community members and ratepayers who have spoken with me. Will the core team provide more detailed consideration of these ratepayer concerns?

Thank you,

Rebecca Falk
Member, Advisory Committee, GSP Borrego

Boyd Hill

From: Bennett, Jim <Jim.Bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 2:24 PM
To: Michele Staples
Cc: McGlothlin, Russell (RMcGlothlin@bhfs.com); Crumley, Justin; Steve Anderson; tdriscoll@dudek.com; Geoff Poole
Subject: RE: REQUEST FOR BORREGO VALLEY MODEL INFO

Good Afternoon Michelle,

As a follow up to your e-mail, the model files are now available. The files exceeded our size limit for our website, but Trey Driscoll is available to get the files to you and anyone you'd like the files to be sent to. Please contact him directly at 760-479-4154. He will setup an ftp site or share drive file to get the info over.

Per your request for follow up technical meetings, Geoff Poole, Trey Driscoll, and I are available on the following dates:

- Friday, 4/26/2019 from 1 to 3 p.m. for the first technical meeting
- Friday, 5/10/2019 from 1 to 3 p.m. for the second technical meeting

The meetings can be held at the Farm Bureau or the County of San Diego offices, please let us know if these dates work and which venue you'd like.

For your technical inquiries, please refer to the GSP and the technical appendix D1 Update to the Borrego Valley Hydrologic Model.

Have nice weekend,

Jim Bennett, P.G., C.HG.
Water Resources Manager

County of San Diego

Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Avenue, Third Floor, San Diego, CA 92123
Phone: 858-694-3820
SGMA Website: <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/SGMA.html>

From: Michele Staples <MStaples@jacksontidus.law>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 8:04 PM
To: Bennett, Jim <Jim.Bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Cc: McGlothlin, Russell (RMcGlothlin@bhfs.com) <RMcGlothlin@bhfs.com>; Crumley, Justin <Justin.Crumley@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Steve Anderson <steve.anderson@bbklaw.com>
Subject: REQUEST FOR BORREGO VALLEY MODEL INFO
Importance: High

Jim, thank you for your call last week confirming that the draft GSP and the Dudek update to the USGS Borrego Valley Hydrologic Model are scheduled to be released on March 22 for a 60-day public review and comment period. AAWARE and Rams Hill are supportive of the efforts made by the GSA to develop a collaborative management solution for Borrego Valley. To that end, we ask that the following information be provided when the Dudek version of the model is released in order to enable a meaningful opportunity to review and understand the model, so that we can add constructive

suggestions for collaboration through the Technical Advisory Committee process in the first five years of GSP implementation:

1. An operational version of the model with the code in a executable format such that we can run the model independently;
2. A summary of the differences between Dudek's model and the USGS model that it is based upon (the USGS model is already publicly available);
3. We understand from the technical consultants meeting at the end of last year that the only input that Dudek changed to the USGS model was the total groundwater production. If Dudek made other changes to the original USGS inputs, please provide a report summarizing the assumptions, inputs, outputs, and comparison to status quo, comparison to the USGS assumptions for sustainability under SGMA (USGS Scenario 6), and differences in quantifiable metrics like water quality changes, water level changes, subsidence, loss of well performance, and relative significance of the changes in terms of culture, economic productivity; and
4. 2 technical meetings with Dudek and the stakeholders' hydrogeologists and engineers to discuss the model and suggestions for TAC collaboration in the first five years of GSP implementation, the first technical meeting at 5 weeks after the release of the model information and the second 2 weeks later, and the possibility of a follow up conference call or third technical meeting if there are unresolved issues. As a preliminary short list for TAC collaboration, we would propose drilling down on specific yield (SY), mountain front underflow, and (AG +REC) irrigation returns.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you

Michele A. Staples
Shareholder
mstaples@jacksontidus.law
D: 949.851.7409
C: 949.233.5039

 **Jackson Tidus**
A LAW CORPORATION
2030 Main Street, 12th Floor
Irvine, CA 92614
O: 949.752.8585
F: 949.752.0597
www.jacksontidus.law

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